

Estimates of Poland's losses East of <sup>the</sup> Curzon Line

1. Estimates of post-war population in Poland West of Curzon Line including repatriates and Poles from eastern Poland who will abandon their homes and go west of Curzon Line : 24.7 millions of which 11.1 million agricultural population and 13.6 million non-agricultural; this last figure includes some 1.3 million of agricultural population who must be transferred to non-agricultural occupations in view of the lack of place in the country;
2. Assuming pre-war yields per hectare the net production of wheat and rye which amounted in Poland before the war to 6.7 million tons will drop to about 5 millions; assuming further the pre-war level of human and animal consumption the exportable surplus will drop considerably; if production can not be raised above the existing level of 1945, Poland west of Curzon Line is deficient in wheat and rye to the extent of more than 500.000 tons;
3. Petroleum and products: pre-war production west of Curzon Line amounted to some 120.000 tons of crude oil out of more than 500.000 in pre-war Poland; pre-war consumption of petroleum products slightly exceeded pre-war production and demand had to be restricted; post-war consumption in view of the necessity of replacing the loss of horses by motor drive will exceed the pre-war which fact must result in a permanent import of petroleum to the extent of at least 400 - 500.000 tons;
4. Assuming pre-war yields per hectare the net production of barley which amounted in Poland before the war to 1055.000 tons will drop to about 670.000 tons; assuming further the pre-war level of human, animal and industrial consumption the exportable surplus will amount to at most 110.000 tons, as against 266.000 tons of exports in 1938; if production can not be raised above the level presumed in 1945, no exportable surplus will be available;

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5. The number of cattle in Poland before the war amounted to more than 14.4 million heads of which 8.5 millions west of the Curzon Line; the extremely heavy losses caused by the war bring us to the assumption that the number of cattle west of the Curzon Line is less than 5.3 millions in 1945; even if after several years the pre-war level is restored it will still mean that instead of 0.4 head of cattle per head of the population, Poland will have only 0.3 head of cattle with all the consequences regarding export and consumption; the number of pigs in pre-war Poland amounted to 7.5 millions of which 4.6 millions west of the Curzon Line; even if the 2.9 millions assumed as pig population west of Curzon Line in 1945 will be brought to the pre-war level it means a considerable decrease of pigs per head of the population and consequently either the diminishment of consumption or the drop in exports of bacon and hams;

6. Potassium salts : pre-war production 570.000 tons of which 125.000 tons / in terms of raw material/ have been exported leaving thus 450.000 for domestic consumption; this consumption being far larger per hectare west of the Curzon Line than in the East, it can be reasonably assumed that the area west of the Curzon Line consumes at least 75% of the total production; the location of this production being east of the Curzon Line it means for the Polish balance of trade : first - the loss of the pre-war exports of 125.000 tons, and second - the necessity of importing some 350.000 tons from abroad;

7. The most important changes will occur in respect of timber. Polish pre-war production amounted /fuel not included/ to 10.250.000 cubic metres. This situation has been considerably changed during the German occupation of Poland when owing to the utmost devastation as much as over 20 yearly cuttings have been taken for German military and civilian needs during a period of five years. Thus the following calculation should be accepted as purely theoretical because it will, in fact, be much worse. Assuming, for argument's sake, that no destruction occurred in Poland during

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the war, the loss of the territory to the east of Curzon Line would mean a loss of 5.5 million cub.m. of yearly production leaving 4.75 million cub.m. Pre-war Polish export of timber and timber products amounted /in terms of raw material/ to 3.250.000 cub.m., domestic consumption need some 7 million cub.m. The hypothetical consumption of the territory west of the Curzon Line would require 1.5 million cub.m. of pit-props, some 0.5 million cub.m. for railways and telegraph poles, and some 2.2 million cub.m. for normal consumption of 24.7 million people /i.e. without taking into account the needs of post-war reconstruction/. The consumption of wood-pulp and celuloze industry /located in 75% of their production capacity/ to the west of Curzon Line would require further 1.25 million cub.m., which brings the total consumption to 5.5 million cub.m. i.e. creates a deficiency even in respect of the 4.75 million cub.m. of the normal production without war losses. It means not only the total loss of 17% of the pre-war value of exports, but even the necessity of importing timber from abroad during a relatively long time i.e. in expectation of the future regeneration of Polish forests.

The evaluation of changes in the prospective balance of trade of the territory west of Curzon Line, even confined to the above mentioned six big items of production, is obviously impossible, were it only for the difficulty of establishing the right proportions in prices. One assumption, nevertheless, can be made almost with certainty : this of the absolute impossibility for Poland to have in these conditions during the next decades, both an economic development and a reasonable equalised balance of trade.

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